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Borough of
otherwise



of Dunheved
Launceston

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1966

Health Area Office,
LAUNCESTON, Cornwall.

W. PATERSON, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.



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BOROUGH OF DUNHEVED otherwise LAUNCESTON

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Health Area Office,
Launceston,
Cornwall.

WILLIAM PATERSON,
M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

1941-1942

1943-1944

1945-1946

1947-1948

1949-1950

1951-1952

BOROUGH OF DUNHEVED otherwise LAUNCESTON

Members of the Public Health Committee - 1966

The Worshipful the Mayor of Launceston -
Councillor W.R. BENNETT
Councillor C.J. MOORE (Chairman)
Councillor Mrs. J.C. HICKS (Vice-Chairman)
Alderman W.F. HENDER
Councillor S.G. ADAMS
Councillor E. HOFF
Councillor J.D. RASHLEY
Councillor H.C. GOLDING

- - - - -

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:

Medical Officer of Health :

W. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health : Launceston Rural District Council
Bude/Stratton Urban District Council
Stratton Rural District Council
Camelford Rural District Council

Health Area Medical Officer, Area No. 6 - Cornwall County Council
School Medical Officer - Cornwall County Council

Chief Public Health Inspector :

G.E. GIFFORD, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

J.G. HUGHES, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 1.5.66)

W.L. JUDD, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 22.7.66)

Authorised Meat Inspectors :

J.S. HYNDFORD (Commenced 14.7.66)

J. ELLISON (Commenced 8.8.66)

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Area (in acres) | 2182 |
| Population | 4570 |
| No. of separate dwellings occupied | 1600 |
| Rateable value, 1966 | £165,292 |
| Product of ld. rate | £653/12/2.9215d. |

LIVE BIRTHS

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</u> |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|--|
| Legitimate | 52 | 23 | 24 | 12.69 |
| Illegitimate | 6 | 1 | 5 | |
| <u>STILLBIRTHS</u> | 2 | 1 | 1 | 33.33 per 1,000 total births |
| <u>DEATHS</u> (all causes) | 80 | 44 | 36 | 17.50 |

Puerperal and post-abortive
sepsis Nil
Other Puerperal causes Nil

INFANT MORTALITY

(Deaths under 1 year, per 1,000 live births)

N I L

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | | N I L | |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) | | N I L | |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | | N I L | |

Health Area Office,
Launceston.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Dunheved, otherwise Launceston.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, Mrs. Hicks and Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health for the year 1966.

Deaths were 25 fewer than in 1965, and live births decreased by 26. The unfavourable balance of deaths over births continued, but the estimated mid-year population figure, supplied by the Registrar-General, was unchanged at 4570. No infant deaths occurred, but two stillbirths were recorded. Heart disease took its usual place at the head of the list of causes of death, followed once again by vascular lesions of the nervous system and cancer, in that order.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease was low. After the sharp outbreak of Some dysentery which occurred in the last quarter of 1965, no further cases were notified.

The routine work of the Department continued steadily throughout the year. The resignation during the year of Mr. Hughes and Mr. Judd, Additional Public Health Inspectors responsible for meat inspection, led to a period during which it was not possible to maintain 100% meat inspection. They were replaced, with the minimum of delay, by Mr. J.S. Hyndford and Mr. J. Ellison, Authorised Meat Inspectors, who hold the comparatively recent qualification introduced by the Authorised Officers (Meat Inspection) Regulations, 1960, after which it was once again possible to achieve inspection of all carcasses.

The Tower Street-Northgate Street Redevelopment scheme continued, with the completion and occupation of some of the accommodation. This development includes a number of old persons dwellings and here, as at Poltamar, a bell system and warden service have been provided, with the aid of a grant from the County Council.

I must express my thanks to Mr. G.E. Gifford, the Council's Chief Public Health Inspector, for his valuable co-operation in all aspects of our work together and in the preparation of this report. The Council's other Departments have continued their willing help. I am grateful to the General Medical Practitioners for their co-operation.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge, once again, the continued interest and encouragement of the members of the Council and, in particular, of the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health

AREA (in acres) 2,182. This ancient Borough is the natural centre of the agricultural community in North Cornwall and adjoining parts of Devon. It has important markets and some light industry.

POPULATION - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1966 to be 4,570, the same as in the previous year. The "natural increase" in the population is the excess of births over deaths. In 1966 there were 22 fewer births than deaths.

DEATHS - The total number of deaths assigned to the Borough for the year was 80 compared with 105 in 1965. The crude death rate, based on the mid-year population, was 17.50 compared with 22.97 in the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years :

| <u>Years</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Recorded Rate</u> |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1962 | 77 | 37 | 40 | 17.07 |
| 1963 | 81 | 39 | 42 | 17.96 |
| 1964 | 70 | 42 | 28 | 15.384 |
| 1965 | 105 | 50 | 55 | 22.97 |
| 1966 | 80 | 44 | 36 | 17.50 |

In order to compare the mortality in the District with the mortality for England and Wales, it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as 0.59 for this Borough.

The standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 10.32 which may be compared with that of 11.7 (provisional) for England and Wales.

BIRTHS - The number of live births assigned to this Borough was 58 compared with 84 in 1965. The rate per thousand of the population was 12.69. When the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.09) is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 13.83 for this Borough compares with 17.7 (provisional) for England and Wales.

STILLBIRTHS - The number of stillbirths during 1966 was two.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS - There were six illegitimate births assigned to the Borough during the year.

MATERNAL MORTALITY - No case of death during pregnancy has been recorded.

INFANT MORTALITY - There were no infant deaths in 1966.

NOTE :

Vital Statistics. It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to the other, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classifications of Disease, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1955.

| <u>Cause of Death</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory | - | - | - |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other | - | - | - |
| 3. Syphilitic disease | - | - | - |
| 4. Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| 5. Whooping Cough | - | - | - |
| 6. Meningococcal infection | - | - | - |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis | - | - | - |
| 8. Measles | - | - | - |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | - | 1 | 1 |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 1 | - | 1 |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 1 | - | 1 |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast | - | 1 | 1 |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | - | 1 | 1 |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia | - | - | - |
| 16. Diabetes | - | - | - |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 9 | 11 | 20 |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina | 11 | 7 | 18 |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 20. Other heart disease | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 21. Other circulatory disease | 2 | - | 2 |
| 22. Influenza | - | 1 | 1 |
| 23. Pneumonia | 2 | - | 2 |
| 24. Bronchitis | 2 | - | 2 |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system | 1 | - | 1 |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 1 | - | 1 |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | - | 1 | 1 |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis | 1 | - | 1 |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate | 2 | - | 2 |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | - | - | - |
| 31. Congenital malformations | - | - | - |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents | - | - | - |
| 34. All other accidents | - | 1 | 1 |
| 35. Suicide | - | - | - |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war | - | - | - |
| | 44 | 36 | 80 |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

- I Health Department : The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and provides the following services in the district :-
- (a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.
 - (b) Health Visiting. Health Visitors are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. Originally concerned with the care of mothers and young children, which is still their basic function, they are increasingly concerned with other age groups, particularly the aged. Some health visitors combine the work with general nursing and midwifery. All act also as school nurses.
 - (c) Child welfare Centre. A Child welfare Clinic is held at the Health Clinic, Launceston, three times each month.
 - (d) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic at the Health Clinic, Launceston.
 - (e) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and for poliomyelitis vaccination, are provided at the Child welfare Clinic or by the supply of materials to the family doctor.
 - (f) Home Help Service. Home helps are employed to provide domestic help for households in certain circumstances, a charge being made for this service according to the means of the person concerned.
 - (g) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveyance of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases, utilicon sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from Ambulance Control, Bodmin.

- (h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care. A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculous persons. District nurses are available to assist in the treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor. Routine tuberculin testing and, if necessary, B.C.G. vaccination (i.e. vaccination against tuberculosis) is provided for senior school children.

Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors, and health education is carried out by the County's medical and nursing staff.

- (i) Mental Health. The County Council has certain responsibilities in connection with the ascertainment of mental ill-health and mental deficiency, with the provision of statutory supervision, etc. for mental defectives living in the community, and with the provision of after-care following treatment for mental illness. The Mental Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

II Education Department. As local education authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following :-

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of special education
Treatment Clinic, Health Clinic, Launceston :-
Dental Clinic by appointment
Child Guidance Clinic, by arrangement

III Welfare Department. This service is concerned with the welfare of the aged, and with that of various categories of handicapped persons. It is concerned also with the provision of temporary accommodation in certain circumstances for persons in urgent need thereof. The Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

Hospital Services

The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the area.

Launceston Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy Chest Hospital and Tehidy Hospital. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Laninval House, Bodmin and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held twice monthly at the Health Clinic, Launceston, and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Tavistock Hospital. The Chest Clinic is held at Launceston Hospital.

An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Launceston Health Clinic. A specialist Antenatal clinic is held in Launceston each week.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Plymouth, to which specimens for bacteriological examination are sent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES

The Borough of Launceston comes within the area served by the East Cornwall Water Board. The water, from an upland surface gathering ground, is soft and slightly acid, and the average daily requirement of 200,000 gallons is adequately met.

Out of a total of 1,600 dwellings with a population of 4,570 persons, 1,593 dwellings and 4,548 persons are supplied with water from public water mains.

No stand pipes are used in the Borough.

SAMPLING

The following is a summary of reports of water samples taken in the area :-

Public Supplies

I By East Cornwall Water Board

(a) Untreated Water

Chemical Samples : No reports received

Bacteriological Samples :

| <u>No. of Samples taken</u> | <u>No. of Samples containing Coliform Bacilli</u> | <u>No. of Samples containing Coliform Bacilli Type 1 (faecal)</u> |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 15 | 12 | 12 |

Note: Of the samples containing Coliform Bacilli Type 1 (faecal), counts were uniformly low, with the exception of three taken in August, September and October respectively.

(b) Treated Water

Chemical Samples : No reports received

Bacteriological Samples :

| <u>No. of Samples taken</u> | <u>No. of Samples containing Coliform Bacilli</u> | <u>No. of Samples containing Coliform Bacilli Type 1 (faecal)</u> |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 24 | 0 | 0 |

II By Health Department, Launceston Borough Council (from distribution system - treated water)

Bacteriological Samples :

| <u>No. of Samples taken</u> | <u>No. of Samples containing Coliform Bacilli</u> | <u>No. of Samples containing Coliform Bacilli Type 1 (faecal)</u> |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 16 | 1 | 1 |

Sampling was repeated at the premises from which an unsatisfactory result was obtained and this sample showed no Coliform Bacilli to be present.

It is the routine practice of your Health Department to send a copy of each bacteriological report on these samples, to the Chief Engineer, East Cornwall Water Board, for his information.

Private Supplies

Two samples from a drinking fountain supplied via an underground reservoir on Council property contained Coliform Organisms. The reservoir was cleaned and resampling was satisfactory.

SWIMMING BATHS

The swimming bath at Coronation Park is of the open air type. It has a capacity of approximately 100,000 gallons of water which is filtered by the circulating method and chlorinated by an automatic dosing plant.

Twenty-nine samples of water were taken for bacteriological analysis. These were all reported as free from Coliform Organisms.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Launceston is largely served by the separate or dual system of sewerage, whereby surface water is excluded from the foul sewers. Only four properties remain which still use conservancy methods.

There are two sewage disposal works, a small one at Scarne built by the Army Authorities during the war and modernised in 1959, and a much larger one at St. Leonards which has functioned in its new form since April, 1963 following complete reconstruction and enlargement.

DISINFECTION

Current and terminal disinfection by means of gaseous and liquid disinfectants is carried out when infectious disease is notified, and the circumstances of the case require it.

DISINFESTATION

Disinfestation of premises is carried out when required. Spraying against cluster fly in roof spaces of four houses on a new estate was carried out. Sixteen other roof spaces were inspected but were found to be clear.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Bi-weekly collections are made of house refuse and weekly collections made of refuse and paper from trade premises. A compression type refuse loader is used.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

All public conveniences are provided with washing facilities and provision has been made for the construction of an additional public convenience in 1967.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Inspection of premises registered under this Act continued during the year. All premises had received a general inspection by 31st December, 1966. The following contraventions were found :-

| <u>Total Shops</u> | <u>Over- Crowding</u> | <u>Washing Facilities</u> | <u>Sanitary Accommodation</u> | <u>Lighting & Ventilation</u> | <u>Temper -ature</u> | <u>First Aid</u> | <u>Defects</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 91 | 4 | 26 | 18 | 32 | 29 | 21 | 16 |
| <u>Total Offices</u> | | | | | | | |
| 47 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 11 | 13 | 12 | 1 |

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

1. Number of properties in district

2. (a) Total number of properties
(including nearby premises)
inspected following
notification

- (b) Number infested by (i) Rats
(ii) Mice

3. (a) Total number of properties
inspected for rats and/or mice
for reasons other than
notification

- (b) Number infested by (i) Rats
(ii) Mice

| TYPE OF PROPERTY | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| NON- AGRICULTURAL | AGRICULTURAL |
| 2235 | 34 |
| 40 | 3 |
| 25 | 1 |
| 7 | - |
| 162 | 18 |
| 15 | 1 |
| 3 | - |

SEWERS

4. Were any sewers infested by rats
during the year ? Yes - 1

POISONS USED :- Sorexal 18 lbs. Zinc Phosphide 1 lb. 12 ozs.
 Arsenic 1 lb. 14 ozs.

HOUSING

| | | | | | | |
|----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1. | Estimated population | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4570 |
| 2. | (a) Total number of permanent houses at 31st December, 1966 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1600 |
| | (b) Total number of permanent houses owned by Local Authority at 31st December, 1966 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 326 |
| 3. | (a) New Houses erected | | | | | |
| | (i) by local authority | ... | ... | ... | ... | 27 |
| | (ii) by private enterprise | ... | ... | ... | ... | 44 |
| | (b) Number of applicants on housing list at the end of the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | 134 |
| 4. | Number of houses specially provided for, and occupied by, people of pensionable age - | | | | | |
| | (a) Receiving contribution from County Council for Welfare Services | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| | (b) Other houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| 5. | Houses demolished - | | | | | |
| | (a) in clearance areas - | | | | | |
| | (i) Houses unfit for human habitation | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| | (ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| | (iii) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957 | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| | (b) not in clearance areas - | | | | | |
| | (i) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | (ii) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| | (iii) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |
| | (iv) Unfit houses included in unfitness orders | ... | ... | ... | ... | - |

6. Unfit houses closed -

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) Under Section 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| (b) Under Section 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| (c) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957 | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

7. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied -

| | <u>By Owner</u> | <u>By Local Authority</u> |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------|
|--|-----------------|---------------------------|

| | | |
|--|------|---|
| (a) after informal action by local authority | 17.. | - |
| (b) after formal notice under - | | |
| (i) Public Health Acts | ... | - |
| (ii) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Acts, 1957 | - | - |
| (c) under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 | ... | - |

8. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Act, 1957) -

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| (a) Retained for temporary accommodation - | | |
| (i) under Section 48 | ... | Nil |
| (ii) under Section 17(2) | ... | Nil |
| (iii) under Section 46 | ... | Nil |
| (b) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53 | ... | Nil |

9. Purchase of houses by agreement -

Houses in clearance area other than those included
in confirmed clearance orders or compulsory purchase
orders, purchased during the year

10. Housing Acts 1949 - 1965

Improvement Grants -

(a) Discretionary -

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Number of applications received - dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Number of applications approved - dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Total approved expenditure | ... | ... | ... | ... | £874 |
| Total amount of grants made | ... | ... | ... | ... | £208 |

(b) Standard -

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------|----|
| Number of applications received - dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Number of applications approved dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Total approved expenditure | ... | ... | ... | £910 (Max. grant permitted) | |
| Total amount of grants made | ... | ... | ... | £945 (8 dwellings) | |

Note - 5 grants approved to 31st December, 1966 were unpaid at that date. Number of applications for standard grants to 31st December, 1966 total 76.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(i) Classified Number of Food Premises in the Area

| <u>Type of Premises</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960</u> | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--|--|---|
| | | <u>Section 16</u> <u>complied with</u> | <u>Section 19</u> <u>Obligatory</u> | <u>Section 19</u> <u>Complied w.</u> |
| Butchers | 10 | 9 | 10 | 9 |
| Small Coods Factories | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Bakehouses | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bakers' shops | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Cafes and Hotels | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Dairies | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Egg Packing Stations | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Fish and Chip Shops | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Greengrocers | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Grocers | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Poulterers | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Slaughterhouses | 2 | 2 | - | 2 |
| School Meals Kitchens | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Hospital Kitchens | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Fresh Fish Shops | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Note: Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

Section 16: Requirement to provide personal washing facilities.

Section 19: Requirement to provide facilities for the washing of food and equipment.

No exemptions from the requirement to provide the above facilities have been issued by the Council.

(ii) Classified Number of Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 or under Local Acts, and the number of Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1959.

| | |
|---|----|
| Premises registered for Storage and Sale of Ice Cream | 26 |
| Premises registered for the Sale of Fish and Chips | 2 |
| Premises registered for Sausage Manufacturing, etc. | 9 |
| Premises registered as Dairies | 6 |

(iii) Inspection of Registered Food Premises

The following inspections of registered food premises were carried out:-

| <u>Premises</u> | <u>Number of</u> <u>Inspections</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Fish and Chip Shops | 5 |
| Sausage Making Establishments, etc. | 12 |
| Ice Cream Premises | 33 |
| Dairies | 22 |

Contamination of Foodstuff

In May, a complaint was made concerning a tin of imported pork luncheon meat, the contents of which were blackened over the surface. In examination of the internal surface of the can showed that there had been extensive corrosion over large areas. The offending pork luncheon meat had been purchased from a local multiple store and following usual practice the store was visited and other tins from the same consignment were examined. Out of five tins opened four had the same appearance of corrosion to a greater or lesser degree. The firm was requested temporarily to withhold the consignment from sale and the tin originally complained of was sent to the Public Analyst for chemical examination, and another tin similarly affected was sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. The importers were informed of the action taken and they themselves caused further samples from the consignment to be submitted for examination.

All examinations showed that the black staining consisted of sulphide of iron, a harmless substance. Bacteriological tests showed that no bacteriological contamination was present. In the circumstances, no action under the Food and Drugs Act could be taken. Whilst action was being considered, a further complaint was received in respect of another tin of the same product from another batch. The condition of this tin was worse than any yet examined. In the circumstances, the retailers of the product were encouraged to withdraw the consignment permanently from sale on the grounds of being unsaleable, but not actually unsound within the meaning of the Food and Drugs Act. The suggestion was readily accepted and no further trouble was experienced.

In May, a complaint was received from a member of the public concerning the somewhat mouldy condition of a cake purchased locally. Enquiries elicited the fact that the cake was manufactured by a large bakery undertaking distributing throughout the south-west. It was in a sealed packing and, as it appeared likely that it had been kept longer than it should have been before being sold, the representative of the firm was asked to call and identify the date of baking. It was found that the date of manufacture was four weeks previous to date of sale and the "shelf life" of this article was 12 to 14 days. Since the mould condition was not sufficiently serious to merit the seizure of the article under the Food and Drugs Act, the firm was warned regarding the necessity for a careful and strict rotation of products as they were delivered. Further visits to other firms selling similar articles were made and in one case no less than 22 articles were found to have been kept considerably longer than was intended by the maker. A warning was given and the employees instructed in the necessity of rigidly observing the shelf life of each product.

(iv) Educational Activities

Posters, leaflets and codes of practice, where applicable, are issued to food producing establishments and food shops from time to time and advice is given whenever possible.

(v) Condemned Food

Unsound or diseased meat is sent to one or other of two premises, one at Southampton and one at Ascot, where it is sterilised and manufactured into fertiliser and other products. Condemned canned foods are dealt with by incineration at the Council's Refuse Tip. The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960, require all butchers' meat and imported meat which is unfit for human consumption to be sterilised, and all knacker meat to be stained and sterilised before entering the chain of distribution.

(vi) Special Examination of Large Food Consignments.

On three occasions during the year, the breakdown of refrigeration necessitated the complete condemnation of the contents of three deep freeze display cabinets.

(vii) Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947 - 1959.

No ice cream is produced in the Borough of Launceston. Thirty-five samples of ice cream, all of the hot mix type, were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. Thirty samples were classified as Provisional Grade 1, four in Grade 3 and one in Grade 4. It is desirable that 80% of samples should be classified in Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20% in Grade 3 and none should fall into Grade 4. Whilst in this case more than 80% of samples were classified in Grade 1 and not more than 20% in Grade 3, one sample did in fact fall into Grade 4, which was most unsatisfactory. However, resampling from this trader gave a Grade 1 result.

(viii) Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 - 1960.

Frequent inspections of all food establishments in the Borough were carried out during the year.

(ix) Milk and Cream

There are six registered dairies in the Borough. Milk is delivered from two of these and from the local depot of another large dairying firm operating in the south-west. A further trader whose premises is not within the Borough also retails milk.

The following samples of milk were taken by this Department during the year :-

Untreated Milk

Passed Methylene
Blue Test

4
Passed Biological Test
(i.e. for T.B.)

Failed Methylene
Blue Test

2
Failed Biological Test

Passed Brucella Abortus Ring Test

Failed Brucella Abortus Ring Test

6

Pasteurised

Twenty-one samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken and all passed the Methylene Blue test and the Phosphatase tests.

(x) Unsound Food

Twenty-one visits were made in order to condemn unsound foodstuffs.

(xi) Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

100% meat inspection was carried out within the Borough with the exception of the period from the 25th April until the 8th August when staff was not available for this duty. During that period approximately 50% of all animals were inspected, including any animal suspect in any way of being diseased.

There was an increase of 8,234 in the number of animals slaughtered in 1966, indicating a rise of 10.9% compared with the 1965 figure, and representing a total kill of 83,636 animals, made up as follows :-

| | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| Bovines | 5632 increased by 229 or 6.7% |
| Calves | 2334 increased by 375 or 19.1% |
| Sheep | 54497 increased by 7802 or 16.7% |
| Pigs | 21173 decreased by 272 or 0.8% |

83636 increased by 8234 or 10.9%

Cysticercus Bovis

There were two cases of infestation by Cysticercus Bovis detected during 1966, as against seven in 1965. One of the animals affected was a cow and the other a steer. The parasite, developmental stage of the human tapeworm, was found in the cheek muscles of the animals.

Affected carcasses are totally condemned if the condition is generalised, otherwise they are treated by three weeks refrigeration at a temperature not exceeding 20 degrees Fahrenheit. In the cases detected during the year, the lesions were localised, and only the organ or part affected was condemned, the remainder of each carcass being treated as above.

Tuberculosis

Four cases of Bovine Tuberculosis occurred during the year. The incidence of Tuberculosis in Pigs, 1.5%, was the same as in 1965.

Slaughtering Licences

Twenty-nine licences to slaughter animals were granted during the year.

Diseases of Animals Act

No diseases notifiable under the Diseases of Animals Act occurred during the year.

For details of animals inspected and condemned see Table IV.

(xii) Poultry Inspection

- (i) Number of poultry processing premises within the district - 1
- (ii) Number of visits to these premises - 19
- (iii) Total number of birds processed during the year - 167,616
- (iv) Types of birds processed -

| | |
|----------|---------|
| Chickens | 14,550 |
| Turkeys | 1,116 |
| Hens | 131,800 |
| Broilers | 21,950 |
- (v) Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption - Average 2 - 4%
- (vi) Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption - this figure was not recorded by the Proprietors of the establishment.
- (vii) Comments on poultry processing and inspection :-

What was formerly a small poultry processing business was altered and enlarged during the year. Advice on the modernisation from the Health Department of the Local Authority was readily accepted. With the modernisation and increase in throughput, visits of inspection are being increased and the Proprietors have been assured of an immediate visit at any time that inspection is specially required.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT 1961

Classified List of Registered Factories at 31.12.66

| | <u>Power</u> | <u>Non-Power</u> | <u>Building Operations</u> <u>Electrical Stations</u> <u>Institutions, etc.</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------|------------------|---|
| Agricultural Implement Repairs | 3 | - | |
| Bakehouses | 1 | - | |
| Brush Making | 1 | - | |
| Cabinet Making | 1 | - | |
| Cellulose Spraying | 1 | - | |
| Dresses and Millinery | 1 | 1 | |
| Egg Grading and Packing | 1 | - | |
| Electrical and Radio Repairs | 2 | - | |
| Gas Holder | 1 | - | |
| Hide Salting and Dressing | - | 1 | |
| Joinery | 6 | 1 | |
| Laundry | 2 | - | |
| Letter Press Printing | 2 | - | |
| Monumental Mason | 1 | - | |
| Motor Body Painting | 1 | - | |
| Motor Body Builders | 1 | - | |
| Motor Vehicle Repairs | 14 | - | |
| Provender | 1 | - | |
| Poultry Slaughterhouses | 1 | - | |
| Packing Cases | 1 | - | |
| Radio Repairs | 1 | - | |
| Rope Splicing | - | 1 | |
| Sawmills | 1 | - | |
| Seed Dressing | 1 | - | |
| Sausage Manufacturers | 4 | - | |
| Television Repairs | 2 | - | |
| Upholstery | 1 | - | |
| Watch and Clock Repairs | 2 | - | |
| Wool Grading | 1 | - | |
| Electrical Stations | | | 1 |
| Building Operations | | | 6 |
| Slaughterhouses | | | 1 |
| | 55 | 4 | 8 |

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961 are attached as an appendix to this report in accordance with Circular 1/67 of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER
DISEASES

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following :- Smallpox, cholera, diphtheria, membranous croup, erysipelas, scarlet fever, typhus fever, typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, relapsing fever, plague, ophthalmia neonatorum, acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia, whooping cough, measles, acute encephalitis, meningococcal infection, anthrax, food poisoning, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis, malaria, dysentery, puerperal pyrexia and leprosy.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

Smallpox. No case was notified during the year, in the course of which 61 vaccinations and 14 re-vaccinations were carried out.

An outbreak of the mild variety of smallpox (variola minor) occurred in the West Midlands in May and June, with 45 known and probable cases. A subsequent smaller outbreak of the same infection occurred in Monmouthshire, and appears to have had no traceable connection with the West Midlands outbreak. These occurrences emphasise the need for the maintenance of a high standard of protection by vaccination and re-vaccination against this disease. The speed of modern air travel from countries in which the disease is always present, and the presence in this country of a not inconsiderable population drawn from these endemic areas, give rise to the constant risk of outbreaks of this nature, a situation which has not existed since smallpox ceased to be an endemic disease in this country.

Diphtheria. No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

Sixty-nine children received a complete course of immunisation against diphtheria during the year, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in almost all cases. 130 children received a reinforcing dose.

Measles. Eight cases of measles were notified during the year.

Whooping Cough. Seven cases of this infection were notified during the year. One was an adult whose age precluded the possibility of having been immunised against the disease. The remainder were children, and there are records of immunisation for five of these. Whooping cough in immunised children is usually mild and difficult to recognise, as the characteristic symptoms may be absent. For this reason, it is possible that other cases occurred in whom the illness did not come to the attention of a doctor.

Poliomyelitis. No case of this infection was notified during the year, in the course of which 88 persons received a complete course of oral vaccination, and a further 37 a reinforcing dose.

Dysentery. The outbreak of Sonne dysentery which occurred in the last quarter of 1965 appears to have ended with the cases which occurred in December of that year. It might have been expected that a declining number of cases would have continued to occur at least during the first two or three weeks of 1966, but this did not seem to happen, nor were any further notifications received during 1966.

There are a number of possible explanations of this, and the answer probably lies in a combination of these. The antibiotic sensitivities of the organism were known, and treatment was quickly applied and continued until a bacteriological test of cure was obtained. This, by the elimination of infection in the patients, limited the spread of the disease. Also, strict bacteriological control over contacts, and particularly over contacts who were food handlers, was exercised. There is the final possibility that a number of mild cases did occur at the beginning of the year, but did not come to the attention of their doctors. The high state of "herd immunity" resulting from the outbreak among the local people would of itself serve to extinguish such a final smouldering of the infection.

Erysipelas. This is a spreading infection of the superficial layers of the skin, caused by the organism known as the haemolytic streptococcus. In addition to the manifestation of the disease in the skin, general symptoms, such as fever, may be present in varying degrees. The disease was formerly more common and more severe than it is at the present time, and could be serious, or even fatal, in debilitated individuals, particularly in infancy and old age. It is now rare, is usually mild, and is responsive to modern means of treatment.

One case, in an adult, was notified in January.

Puerperal Pyrexia. This is defined as any feverish condition occurring in a woman in whom a temperature of 100.4°F. or more, has occurred within fourteen days after childbirth or miscarriage. One case was notified in December.

Meningococcal Infection. This condition is caused by an organism known as the meningococcus. The most common site of the infection is the meninges or membranes which surround the surface of the brain. The infection of these membranes results in an inflammatory condition which is known as meningitis. One case, a child, notified in February, was treated in the isolation hospital, and made a satisfactory recovery.

Food Poisoning. No cases were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis.

| | <u>Males</u> | | <u>Females</u> | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Pul.</u> | <u>Non.Pul.</u> | <u>Pul.</u> | <u>Non.Pul.</u> |
| Cases on Register 31.12.65 | 8 | 3 | 11 | 2 |
| No. of cases notified during year | 1 | - | - | - |
| Cases restored | - | - | - | - |
| Inward Transfers | - | - | - | 1 |
| Cases Removed | - | - | - | - |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Total on Register 31.12.66 | 9 | 3 | 11 | 3 |
| <hr/> | | | | |

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for treatment of Tuberculosis patients and the County Council for the prevention of spread of the disease and after-care of the patient.

Out-patients and contacts are seen by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic at Launceston Hospital. The County Council Tuberculosis Health Visitor attends the Clinic, follows up the patients in their homes, traces contacts and sources of infection and, thus acting as a most valuable and essential "liaison officer" between the curative and preventive services, bridges a most alarming administrative gap. All susceptible contacts of known cases in the Borough are offered B.C.G. vaccination and the majority avail themselves of this method of protection.

The County Council's scheme for B.C.G. vaccination of susceptible Secondary School children was continued during the year, again with an excellent response.

OTHER DISEASES.

Cancer of the Lung. During 1965, the death of one male due to cancer of the lung was recorded, out of a total of ten cancer deaths. Since 1949, there have been 89 male and 103 female deaths from all forms of cancer. Of these, sixteen male and seven female deaths have been due to cancer of the lung.

Cancer of the Cervix. The Cervical Cytology Clinic at Launceston, started by the County Council in November, 1965, continued to operate during the larger part of 1966. Due to staff shortage at the Pathological Laboratory, a limit on the number of specimens which could be submitted for examination

each month was necessary. This at first allowed of two clinic sessions per month, but continuing staff difficulties at the laboratory after the end of May restricted the number of specimens still further, allowing one session per month until September, after which clinic sessions had to be suspended until the end of the year.

Women between the ages of 30 and 55 years are accepted for this form of examination. The clinic at Launceston serves the whole of the Health Area, and beyond. During the year, 163 specimens were submitted to the laboratory. One case of cancer of the cervix was discovered.

TABLE I

TUBERCULOSIS

Age and Sex Distribution of Cases and Deaths - 1966

| <u>Age Groups</u> | <u>New Cases</u> | | | | <u>Deaths</u> | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|--------------|----------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| | <u>Pul.</u> | | <u>Other</u> | | <u>Pul.</u> | | <u>Other</u> | |
| | <u>M</u> | <u>F</u> | <u>M</u> | <u>F</u> | <u>M</u> | <u>F</u> | <u>M</u> | <u>F</u> |
| 0 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 and over | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Age unknown | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS

| <u>YEAR</u> | <u>POPULATION</u> (Estimated) | <u>BIRTHS</u> | | <u>DEATHS</u> | | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | | <u>Number</u> | <u>Crude Rate</u> | <u>Under 1 year</u> | | <u>All ages</u> | |
| | | | | <u>Number</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
| 1962 | 4510 | 68 | 15.077 | 1 | 14.70 | 77 | 17.073 |
| 1963 | 4510 | 62 | 17.96 | - | - | 81 | 17.96 |
| 1964 | 4550 | 67 | 14.725 | 1 | 14.92 | 70 | 15.384 |
| 1965 | 4570 | 84 | 18.599 | - | - | 105 | 22.97 |
| 1966 | 4570 | 58 | 12.69 | - | - | 80 | 17.50 |

TABLE III

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Jan.Feb.Mar.Apr.May June July Aug.Sept.Oct. Nov.Dec. Total

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Measles | 4 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 8 | |
| Whooping Cough | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 4 | - | - | 1 | - | 7 | |
| Erisipelas | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | |
| Meningococcal | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| Infection | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 5 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | 6 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 18 |

TABLE IV

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

| | Cattle excl. cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep | Pigs | Horses |
|--|--------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| Number killed | 3260 | 2372 | 2334 | 54497 | 21173 | - |
| Number inspected | 3258 | 2372 | 2334 | 46063 | 16409 | - |
| <u>All disease except tuberculosis and cysticercosis</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned | 14 | 13 | 29 | 130 | 53 | - |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 855 | 1383 | 32 | 5367 | 612 | - |
| % of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis | 26.6% | 58.86% | 2.6% | 11.9% | 4.05% | - |
| <u>Tuberculosis only</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 2 | 1 | - | - | 255 | - |
| % of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | 0.06% | 0.08% | - | - | 1.5% | - |
| <u>Cysticercosis only</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unfit meat rejected | 36 tons 7 cwts. 1 Qtr. 22 lbs. | | | | | |

TABLE V

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR

| | <u>INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED</u> | <u>COMPLIED WITH</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Defective Drainage | 8 | 8 |
| General Defects | 11 | 11 |
| Insanitary Conditions | 2 | 2 |
| Obstructed Drainage | 1 | 1 |
| Food Hygiene Regulations | 13 | 12 |
| Smoke Abatement Act | 2 | 2 |
| Noise Abatement Act | 1 | 1 |

Total Number of Complaints received 67

Total Number of Visits paid 1435

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of
the Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 4 | 6 | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority | 55 | 34 | 3 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | 8 | 16 | - | - |
| Total | 67 | 56 | 3 | - |

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

| PARTICULARS | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|--|----------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (Section 1) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (Section 2) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temp- erature (Section 3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation(Section 4) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (Section 6) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7) | - | - | - | - | - |
| (a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) | 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 3 | 3 | - | - | - |

PART VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

| Nature of work | Section 133 | | | Section 134 | | |
|-------------------|--|--|--|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| | No. of workers in August List required by Section 133(1) (c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises | Notices served | Prosecu- tions |
| Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

